

Message Text

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60

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ADP-00

L-03 H-02 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 ACDA-19 NASA-04 SCI-06 RSR-01 /154 W

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R 060051 Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8684

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2491

E. O. 11652: DECON JULY 5, 1974

TAGS: TSPA PFOR UN UR CA FR

SUBJ: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC): NO AGREEMENT ON REGISTRATION

REF: (A) USUN 2476; (USUN 2450 (NOTAL)

1. FRANCE (CHARVET) OPENED JULY 5 A. M. OSC SITTING BY ANNOUNCING, WITH APPARENTLY GENUINE REGRET, THAT QUAI HAD REJECTED COMPROMISE VOLUNTARY MARKING PROVISION TRANSMITTED REF (B). ARGENTINA AND MEXICO THEN CHIMED IN WITH PARALLEL STATEMENTS, ARGENTINA REITERATING THAT ITS NEW INSTRUCTIONS CALLED FOR INSISTENCE ON THREE ELEMENTS OF COMPULSORY MARKING REQUIREMENT (REF (A) PARA 3). ARGENTINA PRAISED FRANCE FOR STRESSING " LEGAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL ASPECTS" OF QUESTION IN REACHING ITS DECISION. BRAZIL THEN JOINED ITS LA COLLEAGUES IN SUPPORT OF FRENCH POSITION. EGYPT LATER REITERATED THAT IT FAVORED COMPULSORY MARKING PROVISION, ADDING THAT LACK OF ONE WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON NON- ADHERENTS TO LIABILITY CONVENTION.

2. CANADA (MILLER) EXPRESSED DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT, NOTING THAT SPACE POWERS HAD MOVED CONSIDERABLY ON MARKING ISSUE AND REPEATING POINT MADE JULY 3 REGARDING NEED TO " MAKE IT EASIER" FOR SPACE POWERS
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IN DUE COURSE TO MARK SPACE OBJECTS. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, HE FEARED, WOULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT. MILLER HOWEVER PROPOSED KEEPING ISSUE ALIVE FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION AT UNGA IN HOPE THAT APPROVAL OF ENTIRE TREATY MIGHT STILL BE POSSIBLE THERE.

3. DISCUSSION THEN TOOK PLACE AS TO DEGREE OF WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE EXHIBITED BY PROPONENTS OF VARIOUS VIEWS ON REGISTRATION ISSUES.

US (REIS) REITERATED THAT US HAD MOVED EXTENSIVELY TOWARD OTHERS' POSITIONS ON TREATY AS WHOLE AND REGRETTED SOME DELS' APPARENT NON- RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT. USSR (MAIORSKI) SUGGESTED THAT WHOLE CONCEPT OF " COMPROMISE" HAD UNDERGONE CHANGE IN OSC. CHAIR TERMINATED DISCUSSION BY DIRECTING OSC TO TURN TO CONSIDERATION OF ITS DRAFT REPORT, ADJURING COMMITTEE NOT TO GIVE IN TO FRUSTRATION.

4. FRENCH INFORMED US AND SEVERAL OTHER INTERESTED DELS OF THEIR INSTRUCTIONS SHORTLY BEFORE MEETING OPENED. ASKED WHETHER THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT CANADIAN PROPOSAL TO ENTER RESERVATION ON MARKING

PER LIABILITY CONVENTION (REF (A) PARA 7), FRENCH REPLIED THAT THEY ESTIMATED TOO MANY DELS WOULD JOIN IN RECORDING RESERVATIONS TO MAKE THIS VIABLE PROCEDURE.

5. IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH US DELOFF, MILLER EXPRESSED GREAT FRUSTRATION THAT PRIS HAD PULLED RUG OUT FROM COMPROMISE; HE SPECULATED THAT CHARVET MAY HAVE BEEN NEARLY AS FRUSTRATED, IN VIEW OF OPTIMISM LATTER HAD EXPRESSED JULY 3. FRENCH ACTION, MILLER OBSERVED, HAD TAKEN LAS, ESPECIALLY ARGENTINES, OFF HOOK. HE THOUGHT THAT OTHERWISE LAS WOULD HAVE PURSUED " LIABILITY CONVENTION" COURSE.

6. SEVERAL DELS PRIVATELY SUGGESTED THAT IN INTERVAL BEFORE MATTER NEXT TAKEN UP, US SHOULD CONSIDER DROPPING INSISTENCE ON " IF IT CONSIDERS IT USEFUL" IN CONNECTION WITH MARKING OPTION. THEY THOUGHT PHRASE HAD DISTINCTLY REDUCED CHANCES THAT COMPROMISE WOULD PROVE ACCEPTABLE. THESE DELS ARGUED THAT LEGAL CONTENT OF PERMISSIVE PROVISION WOULD BE UNCHANGED. ONE FRIENDLY DEL SUGGESTED THAT US CHANGE OF POSITION ON THIS PHRASE WOULD PLACE ONUS FOR A CHANGE ON SOVS, WHOSE FORMULATION IT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN IN ANY CASE. (COMMENT: WE GAVE NO ENCOURAGEMENT TO THESE VIEWS.)

7. AS OF EVENING JULY 5, SOME DELS WERE SEEKING WAYS TO
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PRESERVE COMPROMISE TEXT IN OSC REPORT SO THAT IT COULD BE CON-
SIDERED AT UNGA IF THERE WERE ANY INDICATIONS THIS MIGHT PROVE
USEFUL.
BENNETT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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